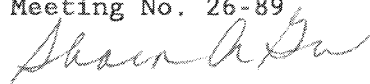


APPROVED: Meeting No. 26-89

ATTEST:



MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting 23-89

May 17, 1989

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland Avenue at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, May 17, 1989, at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember Stephen Abrams

Councilmember James Coyle

Councilmember Viola Hovsepian

ABSENT

Councilmember David Robbins (travel leave)

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn and City Clerk Sharon Gran.

Re: Worksession: FY1990-1995 Capital
Improvements Program

Bruce Romer, City Manager, opened the worksession with an introduction to the Capital Improvements Program, emphasizing the fact that the program now includes both planning and financial elements. A committee comprised of senior staff, headed up by Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn, would continuously monitor and fine tune the program and provide progress reports to the Mayor and Council on a quarterly basis.

The following items were discussed:

Recreation and Leisure Time Services

Meeting No. 23-89

2

May 17, 1989

1. The sum of one percent of the construction cost of public projects (except roads) is set aside to be devoted to art. It was discussed and clarified that the one percent could be spent over the six years of the CIP program and that this money acquired from a project must be spent on art for that project.

2. With respect to the identification of new sites for artwork displays, it was suggested that the City explore the possibility of use of Community Development funds.

3. In conjunction with the expansion of City Hall, it was noted that telecommunications would be enhanced to provide a 24-hour answering (voice mail) service. Mr. Romer also discussed the utilization of the Bouic House as office space for the Youth Services Division which would free up space in City Hall. Mr. Romer noted that the tenants should be given up to six months' notice to vacate the Bouic House, and the Mayor and Council concurred in this action.

4. Regarding the Civic Center natural area, it was decided that the removal of appliances and junk could be handled operationally. Additionally, staff was going to work with the Department of Natural Resources to stock the stream and pond on the grounds by next fall.

5. With respect to Courthouse Square improvements, Councilmember Coyle asked if there had been a decision on removing the circle. Staff responded that the circle would be removed and that signage and related improvements and maintenance projects are being prepared.

6. Additional parking needs at Dogwood Park were discussed as well as moving the batting cages. Staff noted that 40 more parking spaces should solve parking problems.

7. Mayor Duncan asked that Veirs Mill be added to the project list for grounds beautification--rights-of-way and that the project be moved forward from its current

Meeting No. 23-89

3

May 17, 1989

schedule of FY93.

8. Regarding Isreal Park, Mayor Duncan asked that the replacement of the existing fence with a six-foot wrought iron fence be considered for deletion as funding for a portion of this fence related to drug enforcement was recently approved and appropriated from the FY89 budget.

9. Councilmember Hovsepian asked to move forward from FY91 the landscaping for Kingdom Hill. Mayor Duncan asked that the name be changed to delete "Kingdom."

10. Mayor Duncan asked staff about the possibility of Redgate Golf Course being used for tournament play. The Director of Recreation and Parks stated that he would pursue this objective but that it may take eight years or more to get on the schedule.

11. Regarding the funds for construction of a facility in the Town Center for a studio, gallery and educational arts space for Rockville Arts Place, Mayor Duncan asked if funding for this project could come from Community Development. Staff was further requested to provide a current list of funds that have been allocated for Rockville Arts Place and what money has been spent.

12. There was discussion as to the improvements of tennis and basketball courts and the suggestion this project could be moved or adjusted to later years and added to the list for further discussion.

13. Mayor Duncan asked when the Veterans Park landscaping would be done and was advised that it would be scheduled and completed in the fall of 1989.

14. With respect to the lack of parking at Monument Park, Mayor Duncan asked that the addition of 10-12 parking spaces at this site be added to the "Wish List." Staff will provide a report.

Transportation

1. Councilmember Abrams suggested the Church Street sidewalk be identified

Meeting No. 23-89

4

May 17, 1989

as a developer contribution. Staff advised that this would take the form of negotiations with developers.

2. Regarding the City Hall parking lot extension, the City Manager noted that a City Hall Parking Task Force has just completed a draft report which delineates some short-term alternatives. An example is the storing of inspection vehicles at Middle Lane which would generate 36 additional spaces at City Hall. Mayor Duncan asked if staff was looking at Vinson Street as an alternative.

3. In response to Councilmember Hovsepian's request for clarification on the PDF for the Fleet Street Extension, staff responded that all costs involved in this project are included.

4. With respect to the Halpine Road project, it was discussed that the timing of the roadway improvements is in the hands of the property owners as well as the City but that nothing would happen until redevelopment occurs in that area.

5. Regarding the levy of special assessments for the reconstruction and widening of North Street between N. Van Buren, Mayor Duncan noted that it is not realistic to assess three homes for this project and staff should provide an alternative to this source of funding. The sidewalk project for this area should be combined with the widening.

6. Councilmember Coyle asked why the widening of Richard Montgomery Drive was not part of Fleet Street; it was noted that this was a pre-Pike Plan project.

7. Mayor Duncan asked how much money was left in the Roadway Spot Improvements project and was advised by staff that \$21,000 remained because a couple of projects were not built. Staff was requested to provide a priority list of projects and costs.

8. The Mayor and Council requested that the W. Lynfield Drive widening be moved to FY91.

9. Councilmember Abrams asked that the W. Ritchie Parkway traffic signals be

Meeting No. 23-89

5

May 17, 1989

moved up. Staff noted that such an action was possibly warranted and would be explored in further detail for inclusion in final decisions.

10. Mayor Duncan requested that the Watts Branch Pkwy Traffic Control project be considered for moving up to FY90 as a "Wish List" item.

11. Discussion followed regarding the Lincoln Park bridge study. It was noted that a neighborhood improvement program should be planned to stabilize and beautify the area. Mayor Duncan asked that an item for planning funds be added to the budget (FY91 funding), that the pedestrian bridge and a full range of projects be considered to improve conditions. The vehicular bridge was viewed as too costly and a destabilizing influence in terms of traffic and the neighborhood.

12. Mayor Duncan asked staff to research the possibility of erecting a parking garage on the current site of the jurors parking lot and to determine how many spaces District Court is now renting from Eisinger.

Environment

1. The Mayor and Council requested that the Lincoln Park storm drainage project be moved up as a "Wish List" item.

2. Regarding the resurfacing of the roadway between River Road and the water filtration plant, it was noted that this project could be carried as a maintenance item.

Town Center

1. Mayor Duncan asked that staff make reference to all projects in the CIP which enhance the Town Center and that the total cost be carried in the summary in the Town Center section of the CIP.

2. Mayor Duncan asked that the Town Center landscaping be moved up to coincide with the work to be done at Veterans Park.

County/State/Federal Projects

1. Councilmember Hovsepien asked for an update on the status of Montgomery

Meeting No. 23-89

6

May 17, 1989

County Capital Improvements Programs in the City of Rockville.

2. Mayor Duncan inquired as to the status of the old Rockville Post Office and asked staff to determine who owns the building.

3. Councilmember Abrams suggested the City begin studying the potential for acquisition of multi-purpose structures in close proximity to elementary schools to provide off-site day care.

4. In connection with the redevelopment of Town Center, Councilmember Coyle requested bicycle markings/pathways for Ritchie Parkway. Staff responded that the state has already said "no."

Mayor Duncan asked that staff prepare a list of projects which the Mayor and Council had requested be moved ahead or delayed.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council in Worksession, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m., to convene again in General Session on May 22, 1989, at 7:30 p.m., or at the call of the Mayor.